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Promotion and protection of human rights: implementation of human rights instruments

Programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011

Revised estimates arising in relation to the expansion of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

In paragraph 23.30 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 (A/64/6 (Sect.23)), the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly that the membership of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families was expected to increase to 14 during 2010-2011. The Assembly was informed at the time that the associated resource requirements related to the change in membership would be addressed in accordance with established procedures. In accordance with article 72, paragraph 1 (b), of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the Committee shall consist, at the time of entry into force of the Convention, of 10 and, after the entry into force of the Convention for the forty-first State party, of 14 experts. The number of States parties to the Convention currently stands at 42.

The present report details the additional budgetary requirements resulting from the increase in the membership of the Committee, which are conservatively estimated at $122,000 for 2010-2011. The additional resources of $122,000 are proposed to be met within the appropriation approved under section 23, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011. For the biennium 2012-2013, estimated requirements of $135.400 at full cost would be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium.

* A/65/50.

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I. Introduction

1. The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/158, entered into force on 1 July 2003. In accordance with article 72 of the Convention, at the time the Convention entered into force, the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families consisted of 10 experts, acting in their personal capacity, who were nominated and elected by the States parties to the Convention for a term of four years. The Committee, which monitors implementation of the Convention, held its first session in March 2004.

2. In accordance with the principle established by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/243, the Committee meets at the headquarters of its substantive secretariat (the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights) in Geneva. It meets each year for two one-week sessions in Geneva to monitor observance of the Convention by examining periodic reports submitted by States parties.

3. In paragraph 23.30 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 (A/64/6 (Sect.23)), the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly that the membership of the Committee was expected to increase to 14 during 2010-2011. The Assembly was informed at the time that the associated resource requirements related to the change in membership would be addressed in accordance with established procedures. In accordance with article 72, paragraph 1 (b), of the Convention, the membership of the Committee should increase to 14, after the entry into force of the Convention for the forty-first State party. This has since occurred and the present report therefore details the additional budgetary requirements resulting from the increase in the membership of the Committee.

4. At the 4th meeting of States parties to the Convention, held on 3 December 2009, four experts were elected as additional members. The expansion in the number of members of the Committee from 10 to 14 entailed additional costs, consisting of travel, daily subsistence allowance and terminal expenses for the four new experts, including an induction course in Geneva of one day prior to the twelfth session (23 April 2010). The costs associated with the induction course also included travel and daily subsistence allowance for the Chair of the Committee. The expanded Committee is not expected to generate additional conference servicing costs.

5. The Committee held its first meeting with its expanded membership of 14 experts at its twelfth session, from 26 to 30 April 2010.

II. Additional provisions required under the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011

6. The activities of the Committee relate to subprogramme 2, Supporting human rights treaty bodies, of programme 19, Human rights. The additional requirements for travel and daily subsistence allowance and terminal expenses of the four new members are not included under section 23, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011. Resources relating to the Committee reflected in the

programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 amount to $189,500. Total additional resources required for the increase in the membership of the Committee and the associated induction of the new members and the Chair of the Committee, and for attendance of its members at the Committee's two sessions per year for 2010-2011 are estimated at $122,000. However, no additional requirements are proposed for 2010-2011, as it is intended to meet the additional requirements within the overall appropriation approved under section 23, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011. As to the biennium 2012-2013, it is estimated that additional requirements amounting to $135,400 at full cost would be required. The requirements for the Committee in this connection will be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013.

III. Action required of the General Assembly

7. The General Assembly is requested to take note of the present report.